

DOCKET NO: 294866US6PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SHINICHIROU OMATSU, ET AL. : EXAMINER: FRANCIS, F.
SERIAL NO: 10/588,974 :
FILED: AUGUST 10, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3725
FOR: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING :
TONER

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 18, 2008, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, listed in the Restriction Requirement as readable on Claims 13-21, for further prosecution in the present application. Applicants list Claims 13-21 as readable thereon.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a

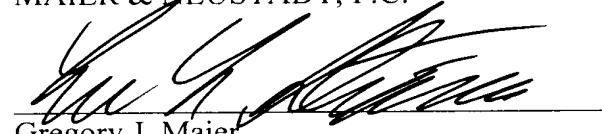
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Reply to Restriction Requirement dated February 18, 2009

serious burden on the Examiner. Therefore, an action on all of Claims 13-23 is earnestly solicited.

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory J. Maier', is written over a horizontal line.

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